

AUGUST 2002

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR
BISON EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

NOTE: For details on optional border port inspection procedures, refer to “Other Information,” (6) Identification.

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of the consignor and the consignee and complete identification of the animal(s) to be exported. Additional information shall include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The animals originated from a certified brucellosis-free herd as defined in Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 78.1

- OR -

The animals originated in a brucellosis-free State from an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months prior to export;

- OR -

The animals originated in a brucellosis-free State from an assembled herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically since the herd was assembled;

- OR -

The animals originated in brucellosis Class A or B State from an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months prior to export. All additions to the herd during the last 2 years other than natural increase were negative to a serum agglutination test at a dilution of 1:50 for brucellosis at least 60 day prior to the qualifying test on individual animals for export.

- OR -

The animals originated in a Class A or B State from an assembled herd with a complete herd test within 12 months except animals under 6 months of age, spayed heifers, steers, and official vaccinates under 18 months of age according to Canadian standards. All the animals were identified in the herd of origin at the time of the herd test or were natural increases born after the complete herd test. The qualifying test for individual animals for export was performed at least 60 days after the complete herd test.

- OR -

The animals originated in Class C States from an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months prior to export. All the bovines in the herd except animals under 6 months of age, spayed heifers, and official vaccinates under 18 months of age according to Canadian standards were tested within 12 months. All the animals were identified in the herd of origin at the time of the herd test or were natural increases born after the complete herd test.

- OR -

The animals originated from Class C States from an assembled herd and every bovine in the herd except animals under 6 months of age, spayed heifers, and steers, and official vaccinates under 18 months of age according to Canadian standards proved negative to three serum agglutination tests not less than 90 days and not more than 180 days between the tests. All the animals were identified in the herd of origin at the time of the herd tests or were natural increases born after the complete herd tests.

2. The animals originate from a tuberculosis (TB) accredited-free herd or a herd of negative status in a modified TB accredited State.
3. All the bovines in the herd(s) of origin, as well as sheep and goats on the same premises, have been inspected within 30 days of entry into Canada and show no clinical evidence of anaplasmosis or bluetongue.
4. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the veterinarian issuing and/or endorsing the health certificate, anaplasmosis has not existed clinically or serologically in the herd of origin for the 2 years immediately preceding the exportation.
5. Either:
 - a. In the case of bluetongue, the animals have resided at least 30 days immediately preceding the date of the bluetongue test in one or more low-incidence States, or in one or more medium-incidence States during the vector-free period.

- OR -

- b. The animals for export have resided in the United States for at least 60 days. Insecticide impregnated ear tags were applied to both ears at the time of the first test for export (as required in medium-incidence States during the vector period) and since the date of the first bluetongue test the animals for export EITHER: have been isolated from other ruminants by at least 200 yards if housed or maintained under a roof -OR- have been isolated from other ruminants by at least 500 yards if not housed or maintained under a roof.

- OR -

- c. The animals for export have resided in the United States for at least 60 days and, since the date of the first bluetongue test, have been isolated from other ruminants by at least 200 yards, housed or maintained under a roof. Insecticide impregnated ear tags were applied to both ears at the time of the first test for export. (As required in high-incidence States during the vector period.)
- 6. The animals were not born in Great Britain or the Republic of Ireland subsequent to January 1, 1982.
- 7.
 - a. The animals have not been vaccinated for brucellosis under the whole herd vaccination program (adult vaccination).
 - b. In the case of a bull, the animal has not been vaccinated for brucellosis.
- 8. The animals are free of ectoparasites, OR the animals have been treated for ectoparasites within 30 days of export. (The name of product and date of treatment must appear on the health certificate).
- 9. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the animals listed on this certificate were not exposed to any communicable disease within 60 days preceding the date of inspection.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

The animals were negative to the following tests:

- 1. Brucellosis - All animals must be negative to standard tube tests (STT) or standard plate tests (SPT) at 1:50 dilution. Vaccinated bison, as defined in Title 9, CFR, Part 78.1, having a titer of Incomplete (I) at 1:50 are considered negative for purposes of export to Canada. Non-vaccinated bison must be completely negative at 1:50 dilution. (The number of tests to be conducted is dependent upon the status of the herd and States involved, as indicated below.)

Brucellosis Test Requirements – according to the status of herd and State.

- 1) Certified brucellosis-free herd, regardless of the status of State:

One STT or SPT on exported animals within 30 days prior to export.

- 2) Class Free States:
 - a) Established herd: One STT or SPT on exported animals within 30 days prior to export.
 - b) Assembled herd: Two STT or SPT on exported animals at least 30 days apart. The second test must be conducted within 30 days prior to export.
- 3) Class A & B States:
 - a) Established herd: One STT or SPT within 30 days prior to export. (All additions to the herd, except natural increases, must be tested at least 60 days prior to the qualifying test for export.)
 - b) Assembled herd: One STT or SPT on the complete herd within 12 months of export except for calves under 6 months of age. One STT or SPT on individual animals being exported regardless of age except for calves born after any testing commences. The second test must be conducted at least 60 days after the complete herd test but within 30 days prior to export.
- 4) Class C States:
 - a) Established herd: One STT or SPT on the complete herd within 12 months of export. Two STT or SPT on individual animals for export, regardless of age, at least 30 days and not more than 90 days apart, with the second test being conducted within 30 days of export. (The complete herd test can be counted as the first qualifying test for export and must include all animals being exported.)
 - b) Assembled herd: Three STT or SPT on the complete herd not less than 90 days and not more than 180 days apart. One STT or SPT on individual animals for export within 30 days of export. (The first and second herd tests must include all animals in the herd except calves under 6 months of

age. The third herd test can be counted as the last qualifying test for export if it includes all animals in the herd, regardless of age, and is conducted within 30 days of export.)

2. Tuberculosis - Accredited-free herd:

If all animals in the herd of origin including the animals for export have been tuberculin tested within the 12 months preceding export, no test is required on the individual animals for export.

If there has not been a complete herd test within the 12 months preceding export, each animal for export must have had an intradermal skin test in caudal fold using bovine PPD tuberculin within 60 days prior to export.

Herd of negative status in modified accredited-free State:

All animals for export must have an intradermal skin test in caudal fold using bovine PPD tuberculin within 60 days prior to export.

3. Anaplasmosis:

a. Testing Procedures Concerning Anaplasmosis for Bison Originating from Bona Fide Breeding Herds:

Anaplasmosis – cELISA test, using the VMRD, Inc. Anaplasma Antibody Kit, carried out in a US federal laboratory or a USDA-approved laboratory (**as of September 15, 2002**) within 30 days prior to export.

b. Testing Procedures Concerning Anaplasmosis for Bison Originating from Non-Bona Fide Breeding Herds:

Anaplasmosis - Two negative cELISA tests are required not less than 60 days but not more than 364 days apart, with the last test being conducted within 30 days prior to export. The initial test must be done on the entire herd and the subsequent test is only required on the cattle being exported.

4. Bluetongue

a. The bluetongue testing requirements for bison are based on States classification status – low-, medium, or high incidence States. The low-incidence status is based on an annual bluetongue serologic survey conducted in 18 States each fall. The infection rate must be 2 percent or less to qualify for low-incidence status.

- b. The following chart describes the residency and the test requirements concerning BT. The residency statements are referenced back to the certification statements listed earlier in this document.
- c. Either the AGID or the ELISA test is acceptable, with the understanding that if two tests are required, the same test must be used for both. ELISA test results can not be used to qualify animals which had positive AGID test results. The ELISA test is a more specific test, and is therefore the preferred test.

STATUS	PERIOD	TEST	ISOLATION IF REQUIRED	RESIDENCY
LOW- INCIDENCE	Year Round	1 test within 30 days of export if residency statement can be met, IF NOT 2 Tests 30 to 90 days apart-the 2nd being conducted within 30 days of export.	Not required	30 days prior to date of test in one or more low -incidence State, OR in one or more medium incidence States during the vector- free period. (Certification Statement 5a on Page 2).
MEDIUM- INCIDENCE	Vector-free Period	Same as above	Not required	Same as above

STATUS	PERIOD	TEST	ISOLATION IF REQUIRED	RESIDENCY
MEDIUM- INCIDENCE	Vector Period	2 tests 30 to 90 days apart, the 2nd test being conducted within 30 days of export	Isolation from other ruminants of 200 yds. if housed under a roof OR 500 yds. if no roof. Insecticide impregnated eartags required at the time of first test 4. (Certification Statement 5b On page 2.)	Resident of U.S. for at least 60 days prior to export. (Certification Statement 5b on page 2.)
HIGH- INCIDENCE	Year Round	Same as above	200 yds. isolation under a roof from any other ruminants . Insecticide impregnated eartags required at time of first test. (Certification Statement 5b on page 2.)	Same as above

OTHER INFORMATION:

LOW-incidence States:

ALASKA, CONNECTICUT, DELAWARE, HAWAII, INDIANA, MAINE, MARYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS, MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, MONTANA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, NORTH DAKOTA, OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA, RHODE ISLAND, VERMONT, WISCONSIN, and WEST VIRGINIA

MEDIUM-incidence States/Vector-free Period: October 15 – April 1

COLORADO, IDAHO, ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, KENTUCKY, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA, NEW MEXICO, NORTH CAROLINA, OKLAHOMA, OREGON, SOUTH DAKOTA, TENNESSEE, UTAH, VIRGINIA, WASHINGTON, and WYOMING

HIGH-incidence States:

ALABAMA, ARIZONA, ARKANSAS, CALIFORNIA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, NEVADA, SOUTH CAROLINA, and TEXAS,

- (1) IF BT reactor(s) are revealed, the following procedures must be followed:

Remove reactor(s) and isolate remaining negative animals by a distance of at least 200 yards from any positive or untested animals. The isolated animals must be housed under roof and have insecticide-impregnated eartags placed in their ears at the start of the isolation. These negative animals are to be retested 30 to 90 days after the isolation. If all of this isolated group test negative on the retest, they are eligible for export. If more reactors are revealed on the retest, the entire process is repeated.

- (2) The animals must be moved directly from the premises of test to the U.S./Canadian border, unless they are moved to a consignment show or sale at which all other animals have the same tested health status (i.e., all animals at the show/sale have been tested equivalent to the requirements for export to Canada).
- (3) Purebred animals may move on only 1 negative test for bluetongue if they meet the following conditions:
 - a. They are exported to Canada during the period beginning on October 1 in any year and ending on March 31 in the following year, to be exhibited at a show that is for the purpose of improving the breed other than a rodeo or circus, and

- b. they have not been in a high-incidence State during the 60 days preceding the date of importation, and
- c. they have proved negative to a test for bluetongue performed within 30 days preceding the date of importation, and
- d. they may only remain in Canada for 21 days after the date of importation.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. Herd definition for anaplasmosis:

Canada bases its test requirements for anaplasmosis on the status of the herds; i.e. herds of origin being either bona fide breeding herds or non-bona fide herds.

A "bona fide breeding herd" has been defined as a herd which has been established and maintained for at least 2 years and there has been no clinical and serological evidence of anaplasmosis in the herd during that period.

In the case of bison that have been added which are offered for export to Canada, they must have been in that herd for at least 60 days prior to the test or have been natural increases to that herd to be certified for export to Canada.

A "non-bona fide" term applies to the following types of herds:

- a. Assembled herds.
- b. Herds of unknown status.
- c. Herds from which reactors to anaplasmosis have been removed within the past 2 years.
- d. Herds established by removing negative animals within the past 2 years from anaplasmosis reactor herds.
- e. Rodeo bison.

2. Laboratory testing for bluetongue and anaplasmosis:

Retests for bluetongue and anaplasmosis must be performed at the same laboratory that conducted the original tests.

3. Canada brucellosis and TB requirement interpretations:

- a. Canada requires that bison originate from a certified brucellosis-free herd or from an established or assembled herd in a Class A, B, or C State and are tested negative as required under TEST REQUIREMENTS.
- b. Certified brucellosis-free herd is a herd as defined in Title 9, CFR, Part 78.1.
- c. An established herd is a group of bison that have been maintained as a herd unit for at least 2 years during which time no serological or clinical evidence of brucellosis has been disclosed.
- d. An assembled herd is a group of bison that has not been maintained as a herd unit for at least 2 years in which no serological or clinical evidence has been disclosed since they assembled.
- e. Canada does not recognize a split status for any State. Therefore, animals from a State with split status must meet the Canadian requirement of the lowest classification existing in the State.
- f. Canada will accept bison from a TB accredited-free herd or a herd of negative status in a modified TB accredited-free State. No test is required on individual animals for export from an accredited-free herd, as long as there has been a whole herd test done within the last 12 months prior to export. Negative TB tests are required on individual animals from herds of negative status in a modified TB accredited-free State. (See Test Requirement).
- g. A herd of negative status for TB is interpreted as a herd which the Area Veterinarian in Charge has no reason to believe is affected with tuberculosis and no isolation of Mycobacterium bovis has ever been made in the herd.

4. Isolation requirements of Canada are:

- a. The isolation facility required under Certification Statement No. 5b must be approved by the accredited veterinarian prior to the start of testing.
- b. When animals originate from a non-bona fide herd, Canada prefers that entire herd be tested. If this is not possible, the animals for export must be moved at

least one-half mile from the main herd and from other bison, sheep, and goats before the testing for anaplasmosis is initiated. (A statement to this effect must be included on the U.S. Origin Health Certificate.)

5. Anaplasmosis and bluetongue test considerations are as follows:

- a. Bluetongue and anaplasmosis reactors are never eligible for export to Canada even though they test negative on subsequent retests.
- b. The 2-year negative herd history (Certification Statement No. 4) is not required if the bison are being qualified for export to Canada from a non-bona fide breeding herd.
- c. Animals may be exported to Canada within 12 months of a complete negative herd test for anaplasmosis if the animals for export are negative to a test for anaplasmosis within 30 days prior to export and the test was conducted at least 60 days after the complete herd test, and they meet other requirements concerning brucellosis, TB, and bluetongue. At the end of the 12 months, the entire herd must be tested to qualify for the next year. If, after 2 years, there has been no serological or clinical evidence of anaplasmosis, the herd regains status as a bona fide breeding herd. At that time, test procedures for a bona fide breeding herd can be followed.
- d. Calves at foot under 30 days of age and born after the qualifying test or calves which are born between the first and second bluetongue test*, or are born after completion of the testing and are not more than 120 days of age at the time of exportation, must be identified with their dams, by eartag, on the health certificate and can be exported without the required tests. All other calves must meet applicable requirements.

* As required in medium-incidence States (vector-period) and high-incidence States.

6. Identification

Canada requires that all bison be identified by an official metal eartag. Other available identification (bangle tags, etc.) may also be recorded on the health certificate.

There are 2 ports with facilities adequate to offload bison: North Portal, Saskatchewan and LaColle, Quebec. The following alternative procedure provides an option where the bison are not required to be offloaded, so they can therefore go through any of the other CFIA ports. The Canadian Bison Association has specific plastic eartags which have

been approved, and the Canadian importer must supply these tags to the US exporter and they must be applied at the time of testing. Both the USDA eartag and the Canadian Bison Association tag must be recorded on the export health certificate. At the time of loading of the bison, an additional supplemental health certificate must be issued by the accredited veterinarian. This certificate provides assurance of the identity and health of the animals at the time of loading. The accredited veterinarian must also seal the truck at the time of loading. The supplemental certificate has been developed by CFIA, and blank copies will be supplied by the Canadian importer. The statement on the supplemental certificate is as follows: "I, the undersigned veterinarian, do hereby certify that I was present at the time of loading as indicated above and found the described bison in good condition and free from any clinical signs of communicable disease. If these bison have been offloaded en route to Canada they have been kept isolated from other livestock. At the time of loading of the above shipment, I verified the unique dangle tags from the Canadian Bison Association and the USDA tag on each animal and checked to see if they corresponded to the tags listed on the official USDA Certificate. I personally placed the numbered seals listed above on all doors to the livestock compartment of the transport vehicle."

7. Bison returning to Canada from the United States:

The following requirements for Canadian bison returning from the United States must be met:

- a. Bison being returned to Canada will be permitted entry into Canada if they are accompanied by a copy of the Canadian export health certificate and they are returned to Canada within 30 days after entry into the United States.
- b. Bison being returned to Canada between 30 and 60 days after entry into the United States must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate indicating they were negative to a test for brucellosis, anaplasmosis, and bluetongue conducted within 30 days prior to their return to Canada. The TB test conducted to permit the animal to enter the United States is valid for bison being returned to Canada if no more than 60 days have elapsed since the reading date.

The U.S. Origin Health Certificate must show the date the animal(s) was imported into the United States from Canada and the test results. A copy of the Canadian health certificate on which the animal entered the United States shall be attached to the health certificate.

- c. When more than 60 days has elapsed since the date of the entry into the United States, the cattle shall be certified as U.S. origin livestock.

8. Bison for immediate slaughter:

Bison for immediate slaughter, which are consigned directly to an establishment registered under the Canadian Meat Inspectors Act, are not to be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate.